THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) A team headed by Shri R. Jayaraman visited the Markacho Block in January, 1987. Decision regrding the location of the proposed ordance factory has not yet been taken by Government and as such it would not be in the public interest to disclose the recommendations of the Site Selection Committee at this stage.

P.M.'s visit to different countries

1008. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE:

SHRI SAGAR RAYAKA:

SHRI RAMSINGHBHAI PATALIYABHAI RATHVAKOLI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the countries visited by the Prime Minister since August, 1987 to 11th February, 1988;

(b) what was the purpose of the visit in each case and the names of the leaders with whom the Prime Minister held discussions and what is the outcome of the discussions;

(c) what is the number of persons who had accompanied the Prime Minister, his staff and pressmen separately;

(d) what are the details of the expenditure both planned and actual involved on these visits; and

(e) what steps have been taken to minimise the expenditure on such visits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Japan, Canada, USA, Netherlands, Nepal, Burma, Pakistan and Sweden.

(b) *Japan*: Transit. Prime Minister had a meeting with the then Japanese Prime Minister M. Yasuhiro Nakasone. Both bilateral and international matters of mutual interest were discussed. Mr. Nakasone announced a special credit of US $ 200 million for drought relief to India. He appreciated the policies which have made progress in Industrial & other fields possible in India. Mr. Nakasone praised the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement as an act of statemanship.

Canada:—Prime Minister went to Canada to attend Commonwealth Heads of Government Meet and for bilateral talks with the Canadian Prime Minister, Mr. Brian Mulroney. Prime Minister held series of bilateral discussions with other participating leaders in Common wealth Heads of Government Meet from Africa, Latin America etc.

USA:—Prime Minister delivered the Jodidi Memorial Lecture at Harward University and held bilateral talks with President Reagan as part of a brief working visit. In New York, he participated in the debate in the UN General Assembly on the question of environment. Prime Minister used the occasion to meet the UN Secretary General and the Prime Minister of Norway Mrs. Brundtland, who was the Chairman of the world Commission on Environment and Development.

Netherland:—Transit. To discuss matters of bilateral and international interest with Dutch Prime Minister, Mr. Rund Lubbers.

Nepal:—To attend the 3rd SAARC Summit Prime Minister held discussion with the Heads of State or Government of the SAARC member countries, namely, President Hussain Muhammad Ershad of Bangladesh, King Jigme Singye Wangchuk of

Bhutan, President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives, King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal, Prime Minister Mohd. Khan Junejo of Pakistan and President J. R. Jayewardane of Sri Lanka. The outcome of Summit included the signing of the Agreement establishing the SAARC Food Security Reserve and of the SAARC Regional Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism and the issue of the Kathmandu Declaration and the Joint Press Release on the 3rd SAARC Summit.

Burma:—Prime Minister called on Chairman Ne Win and had discussions with Prime Minister U Maung Maung Kha. It was decided that bilateral cooperation in various fields would be expanded and the existing friendly relations between the two countries would be further consolidated. Prime Minister donated Kyats 2,50,000 (roughly Rs. 5 lakhs) to their national monument the Shwedegaon, Pagoda and presented a cheque for Kyats 2,00,000 (roughly Rs. 4 lakhs) and some carpets to the trustees of the Mazaar of Bahadur Shah Zafar. During the visit, Prime Minister offered Rs. 100 million as grant for setting up of a project in Burma with Indian assistance. In order to provide a fillip to bilateral trade, India's willingness to purchase rice on a regular basis was conveyed to the Burmese, provided Burma uses the funds generated out of the rice exports to purchase engineering and other goods from India. Prime Minister offered to send an exhibition of Buddhist art and relics including the Kapilavastu relics on a tour of Burma. Concessional travel of Buddhist pilgrims on Indian Railway was also offered. The question of control of cross border insurgency and grant of citizenship to persons of Indian origin were also discussed.

Pakistan:—To pay last respects on the demise of Khan Abdul Gaffar Khan. No substantive discussions were held with leaders of Pakistan as this was purely a condolence visit.

Sweden:—The primary focus of the visit was on the Third Summit Meeting of the Six Nation Initiative on Disarmament. During bilateral discussions with Swedish leaders, views were exchanged on international issues and bilateral matters of mutual interest.

(C)

Countries	Accompanying delegation including staff	Media personnel
Japan & Canada	39	34
USA & Netherlands	40	34
Nepal	34	14
Burma	26	17
Pakistan	35	10
Sweden	39	26

(d) and (e) The details are being worked out and will be placed on the Table of the House.